

**INDIANA ARTS COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

March 11, 2015

Arts Commission Office, 100 N. Senate Avenue, Room N505
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Trevor Yager, Chair

Minutes

Members present: Commissioner Kathy Anderson, Commissioner Pam Hicks

Members via teleconference: Commissioner Trevor Yager

Members absent: Commissioner Nancy Stewart

Arts Commission staff present: Michelle Anderson, Dennis Hardin, Lewis Ricci

1. **Welcome and Introductions.** Commissioner Trevor Yager called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

2. **Approval of Agenda and Previous Meeting Minutes.** Commissioner Kathy Anderson moved to adopt the consent agenda, consisting of the agenda for today's meeting and the minutes from the December 3, 2014 meeting of the Executive Committee. Commissioner Pam Hicks seconded the motion. The motion passed.

3. **Financials.** Arts Commission Deputy Director Michelle Anderson presented a handout (attached) showing the FY 2015 budget, current through January 31, 2015. Arts Commission Executive Director Lewis Ricci announced that the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) will provide an additional \$10,000 to the Arts Commission budget for CY 2015 to cover the cost of new reporting requirements. He also reported that the NEA has approached the Arts Commission about helping to develop a national accessibility website.

4. **Advocacy Report.** Mr. Ricci reported that the ad-hoc advocacy advisory committee continues its work. Arts Day at the Statehouse went very well, and the Arts Commission's Region 7 award ceremony, which coincided with the Arts Day event, also went very well. Members of the Indiana Coalition for the Arts had the opportunity to present the case for arts funding to the legislature last week. Mr. Ricci will be traveling to Washington DC on March 23-24 for National Arts Advocacy Day; the contingent from Indiana will meet with the staffs of all of Indiana's congressional members.

5. **Regional Arts Partner RFP Recommendations.** Mr. Ricci reported that the Regional Arts Partner review committee has recommended that the following organizations be approved as Regional Arts Partners for FY 2016 - 2019: Region 1, South Shore Arts; Region 2, Community Foundation of St. Joseph County; Region 3,

Arts United of Greater Fort Wayne; Region 4, Tippecanoe Arts Federation; Region 5, Community Foundation of Randolph County; Region 6, Arts Illiana; Region 7, Butler University; Region 8, Brown County Community Foundation; Region 9, Columbus Area Arts Council; Region 10, Vanderburgh Community Foundation; Region 12, Community Arts Program at Hanover College. Commissioner Hicks moved to recommend this slate of Regional Arts Partners to the full Commission at its next meeting on March 20. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

6. Application Deadline and Prescreening Report and Issues. Mr. Ricci reported that two arts organizations in the state failed to meet the application deadline for FY 2016 funding. Four organizations which filed intent-to-apply forms were deemed ineligible to receive operating support grants.

7. New Program Guidelines and Applications. Mr. Ricci presented two handouts (attached) of the draft guidelines for the new Arts in the Parks and Indiana Masterpieces grant programs. Both of these were proposed to the legislature for funding as part of the Indiana Bicentennial celebration, and are subject to such funding.

8. Commission Appointments and Leadership for FY 2016. Mr. Ricci reported that there will be four vacancies on the Commission at the end of FY 2015. Jon Ford resigned his commission when he was elected to the state Senate, and three other Commissioners will reach the end of their second terms in June: Karen Ellerbrook, Pam Hicks, and Suzie Rentschler. Mr. Ricci has asked all current Commissioners for nominations to forward to the office of the Governor. A current list of nominations will be presented to the full Commission at its next meeting on March 20.

Mr. Ricci opened a discussion about nominations for Arts Commission officers and committee chairs for FY 2016. He proposed that outgoing Commission chair Trevor Yager and outgoing Commission Vice-Chair Pam Hicks be designated as the nominating committee, and all agreed. Nominations for all offices and committee chairs will be opened during the next meeting of the full Commission on March 20, and all members will be able to nominate for office.

9. Other Items of Concern for Quarterly Business Meeting. Mr. Ricci reported that the planning committee for the next Governor's Arts Awards is narrowing the possible dates for the program, and contacting former award winners who might be able to participate.

10. Alternative Cultural Trust Investment Strategies and Trust Level. Mr. Ricci reported that the Committee on the Future has been considering exploring investment options for the money in the Cultural Trust fund. Currently the entire amount is invested in certificates of deposit, which, in the current economy, do not generate much interest. The Cultural Trust is managed by the office of the State Treasurer, so any change in investment strategy would have to be approved at that level.

11. **Old Business/New Business.** There was no old business. There was no new business.

12. **Adjourn.** In the absence of Commissioner Yager, who left the meeting at 11:00 a.m., Commission Vice-Chair Hicks thanked everyone for their participation and closed the meeting at 11:15 a.m.